

**NEWS RELEASE**  
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## The Ben – Host Hotel & Race Village for 2024 Gateway Marathon

*APBA/UIM Palm Beach to West End, Bahamas, and Back World Record Attempts*

**West Palm Beach, FL**—The Ben West Palm, an Autograph Collection hotel, as the official Host Hotel and Race Village of Ocean Cup’s 2024 Gateway Marathon, will be the epicenter for the land-based activities with a special block of rooms for event attendees. In conjunction with Supercar Week, The Ben will host the Racers Block Party on Thursday, June 6th, beginning at 5:00 in front of Proper Grit, their first-floor signature restaurant and outdoor bar. During this block party, competitors are on site to show off their powerful race boats, pose for photographs, and answer questions.

The world record attempts are Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup> and The Ben’s popular rooftop pool bar and restaurant, Spruzzo, will offer breakfast starting at 8:30 with live stream coverage of all of the offshore action during the 128-mile world record attempts, where Nigel Hook in his 52’ Mystic catamaran are aiming to better their current elapsed time of 1 hour, 15 minutes, and 4 seconds ... that’s an average speed of 102.31mph across the Straits of Florida! The rally-style start begins at 9:00 when the first competitor crosses the Palm Beach Inlet starting line as they race over to West End, Bahamas, to cross the 79th Meridian before returning to Palm Beach. Depending on conditions, teams should cross the finish line within three hours.



Awards for UIM World Record are at 5:00 Saturday in front of The Ben in Ocean Cup’s Race Village. Be sure to mark your calendars for June 6-8<sup>th</sup> and attend the first of the three Ocean Cup’s APBA/UIM world record events planned in 2024.

For more information about special hotel rates and event details, including the schedule of events and other details, be sure to visit our website: [www.OceanCup.com/palmbeach](http://www.OceanCup.com/palmbeach). You can also book directly at [www.TheBenWestPalm.com](http://www.TheBenWestPalm.com) and make reservations at the Proper Grit restaurant at [www.ProperGrit.com](http://www.ProperGrit.com) and via [Open Table](https://www.opentable.com).

### **About The Ben West Palm**

The Ben is a 208-room boutique hotel on the West Palm Beach waterfront – part of the acclaimed Marriott Autograph Collection. The hotel offers prime views of the Palm Harbor Marina and scenic Intracoastal Waterway, including a stunning rooftop lounge with an expansive heated saltwater pool and adjacent bar. Enjoy poolside cocktail service and nightlife vibes. Situated at the northeast quadrant of Olive Avenue and Banyan Boulevard, the hotel is one block from Clematis Street, West Palm’s “Main Street,” and within walking distance of lifestyle hub Rosemary Square. Luxury has arrived in Downtown West Palm Beach. Learn more at [www.TheBenWestPalm.com](http://www.TheBenWestPalm.com) or follow @TheBenWestPalm on Facebook or @TheBenWestPalm on Instagram.

### **About Ocean Cup**

Since 2013 Ocean Cup® has embraced the heritage of powerboat racing providing athletic and sports event services by conducting point to point powerboat competitions in association with Powerboat P1. APBA is the United States sanctioning authority for the Union Internationale Motonautique, the world governing body for powerboat racing. APBA sanctions races in several different classes, including the Offshore category.

Learn more at [www.OceanCup.com](http://www.OceanCup.com) or follow @OceanCup on Twitter or @OceanCupOfficial on Instagram.

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**[www.OceanCup.com](http://www.OceanCup.com)**

**#WorldRecord**